

I would like to express my opposition to the broadcast copy protection flag currently being considered for HDTV broadcasts. I feel that requiring that all HDTV receivers support this flag is a violation of broadcasters' mandate to serve the public. In exchange for public spectrum I expect these corporations to provide a service to citizens. Obviously they should be able to protect their intellectual property to ensure that they are the only private organization profiting from it. However, I feel that enabling DRM such as this initiative prevents citizens from making fair use of these broadcasts. Pirates need to be dealt with when they attempt to redistribute others' content for profit; preemptive action that infringes on citizens' legal use of the broadcasts is not an appropriate solution.